subsequently the post of Joint Secretary (Drugs) in the Ministry and Development Commissioner (Drugs) were merged due to operational difficulties.

(e) to (g) Entire policy is under review. Such a review would entail examination of the merits of the provision relating to Drug Prices Equalisation Account, as well.

Liberalisation of price control on drugs

2218. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:
SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Indian Express of the 14th August, 1990 captioned 'Total Decontrol of drugs rules out';

(b) whether it is a fact that liberation of price control has neither increased the production of drugs nor checked the increase in their prices of medicines;

(c) whether it is a fact that both the objectives were achieved under DPCO, 1979;

(d) if so, on what basis and data the industry is advocating liberalisation;

(e) whether it is a fact that all those drugs which have been wrongly excluded are being scrutinised; and

(f) if so, by when the scrutiny would be completed and rectification done?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) By and large there have been increase in the production of drugs. There have been increase in prices of drugs based on changes in input costs. There have also been reduction in prices of medicines wherever such reductions were justified.

(c) There has been steadiness in prices as well as production of drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979.

(d) Existing Drug policy is under review and various view points have been put across to the Govt. for consideration.

(e) and (f) The process of scrutiny by the Standing Committee is still on. Government has already put 26 bulk drugs under price control recently.

Price control on Oxyphenbutazone and Phenylbutazone

2219. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:
SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee observed in its Supplementary Report that though Oxyphenbutazone and Phenylbutazone do not fufil any exclusion criteria but committee is not recommending these drugs for price control as the same are being banned for consumption due to their hazardous effects;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that no action has been taken to ban these drugs even after a lapse of two years; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Information would be collected from the Ministry of Health and laid on the table of the House.

Rectifyng the Mape System

2220. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:
SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present system of Maximum Allowable Post Manufacturing Expenses (MAPE) is wrong;

(b) whether it is a fact that under the present system of pricing the same mape is allowed on small and high dose drug;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to this the industry is concentrating towards high dose formulations thus ignoring essential medicines; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken to rectify the present system?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS ((SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) The Maximum Allowance Post Manufacturing Expenses (MAPE) which is 75 per cent for Category-I and 100 per cent for Category-II formulations, is based on the measures announced in 1986 by the Government for Rationalisation, Quality Control and Growth of Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry in India.

(c) and (d) The entire drug policy is under review.

Production of Medicines by Small scale Sector.

2221. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:
SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that small scale units have been totally exempted from price control;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the turn over of several small scale units is higher than the organised sector;

(c) whether it is a fact that organised sector is using small scale units as a tool directly and indirectly in flouting Drug Prices Control Order;

(d) whether it is a fact that his Ministry is aware of such instances;

(e) if so, what are the detais thereof;

(f) whether it is also a fact that small scale sector units are printing high prices and offering his discounts;

(g) whether it is a fact that such a step has discouraged investment;

(h) whether his Ministry has made any study of this aspect; and

(i) if so, the details thereof and what steps have been taken to safeguard consumer interest?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987, scall scale sector units have been exempted from price control in respect of Category II formulations subject to ful-